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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/883,533	06/18/2001	Gopal K. Srivastava	MATP-604US	1418
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2617

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

## Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/883,533

Applicant(s)

SRIVASTAVA, GOPAL K.

Examiner

Annan Q. Shang

Art Unit

2617

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 23 February 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 6/01;3/04;2/05.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

## DETAILED ACTION

### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103*

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 1-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over **Humpleman et al (6,603,488)** in view of **Schindler et al (6,359,636)**.

As to claims 1-2, note the **Humpleman** reference figures 1 and 9, discloses browser based command and control home network and further discloses an audio/video platform (AVP) for video signal processing system, comprising:

the claimed "a digital communications port for transferring control and data signals..." is met by Network Interface Unit (NIU) of DBSS 104, DHCP Server 106 or DTV (DTV) 102 (figs. 1-4 and col. 5, line 54-col. 6, line 27), which is a digital communications port for transferring control and audio/video (A/V) "data" signals between DTV 102 or Session Server "AVP" and other home devices (Home-Ds): DVD 108, a DVCR 110, a VCR, a CD player, etc., "a first video device;" note that DTV 102 is a session server containing a session manager, display unit, its HTML page file and a browser (col. 19, lines 9-22;

the claimed "an infrared transmitter for transmitting infrared commands" is inherent to DTV 102 (col. 23, line 66-col. 24, line 13) which receives IR signals for controlling Home-Ds; and

Art Unit: 2617

the claimed "a control processor coupled to the digital video communications port and the infrared transmitter for sending control signals..." in inherent to DTV 102 (col. 8, lines 32-col. 9, line 14), which is a session server containing a control processor coupled to NIU port and IR transmitter and generates a Graphical User Interface (GUI) and sends control commands to Home-Ds via the NIU (col. 7, lines 31-51), note that DTV 102 uses two-way communication via an IEEE 1394 bus within the home to control Home-Ds.

Humpleman teaches DTV 102 or session server controls all Home-Ds including VCR, DVCR, CD players, DVDs, etc., and further teaches a Bridge Proxy 116 for interfacing two networks using different protocols and an Internet Proxy, which interfaces with other the Home-Ds and external servers or clients on the Internet, but fails to explicitly teach an analog video communications port for transferring video signals between a second video device and the DTV 102.

However, note the **Schindler** reference figures 1, a home network and a gateway or Personal Computer (PC) 118, where an analog port within PC 118 interfaces with coaxial cabling, VCR, etc., to provide an NTSC "analog" TV signals on TV 150 (col. 7, lines 44-60 and col. 11, lines 38-67) and permit a user to remote control analog or digital devices.

Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention into incorporate the teaching of Schindler into the system of Humpleman to provide analog signals or television services to the home gateway and provide services to users with analog devices.

As to claim 3, Humpleman further discloses where the communications port is an IEEE 1394 which is configured to send and receive control and data signals to DTV 102 as a slave device and to receive data signals from a third Home-Ds as a master device (col. 4, lines 48-57 and col. 6, lines 28-52).

As to claim 4, Humpleman further discloses where DTV 102 includes memory for storing respective commands sets for first and second Home-Ds (col. 6, line 58-col. 7, line 24 and col. 8, line 59-col.9, line 9).

As to claim 5, Humpleman further discloses where the digital communications port is configured to receive a transport stream as specified by MPEG via the digital communications port and A/V platform further comprises an MPEG decoder which processes the MPEG TS to generate a video output signal (col. 5, line 45-col. 6, line 6 and col. 14, line 33-col. 15, line 2).

As to claims 6-7, Humpleman further disclose where DTV 102 includes RC (col. 23, line 66-col. 24, line 26) for sending signals to DTV 102 and graphic processor for generating on-screen display signals, where the control processor generates on-screen display signals and menus which display control commands for a selected Home-Ds using the graphics processor and responds to corresponding commands from the RC, which includes control switches for control the Home-Ds, and transmits corresponding commands to the selected Home-Ds (figs. 8-12, col. 6, line 58-col. 7, line 24, col. 8, line 32-col. 9, line 9 and col. 14, line 20+).

As to claim 8, note the **Humpleman** reference figures 1 and 9, discloses browser based command and control home network and further discloses a method for

Art Unit: 2617

controlling a plurality of video devices (VCR, DVCR, CD player, DVD, etc., Home devices 'Home-Ds') where a first group (by Rooms, see figs. 7-11) includes respective digital communications ports and are configured as slave mode devices and a second group of plurality of video devices include respective digital communications ports and are configured as master mode devices (DTV 102 or Session Server including Home-Ds in another room), at least the second group of video devices includes an infrared (IR) receiver (col. 23, line 66-col. 24, line 26) which is responds to commands transmitted by the IR remote, the method comprising the steps of:

DTV 102 or Session Server "AVP" includes Network Interface Unit (NIU) of DBSS 104, DHCP Server 106 or DTV (DTV) 102 (figs. 1-4 and col. 5, line 54-col. 6, line 27), which transmits digital commands and IR commands to one or more rooms using the digital communication s port, to control Home-Ds in the various rooms; note that DTV 102 is a session server containing a session manager, display unit, its HTML page file and a browser (col. 19, lines 9-22 and col. 23, line 66-col. 24, line 13).

Humpleman fails to explicitly teach transmitting IR commands to groups of plurality of video devices.

However Schindler further discloses transmitting groups of IR commands to plurality of video devices (col. 7, line 44-col. 8, line 18 and col. 18, line 39-col. 19, line 4).

Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate the teaching of Schindler into the system of Humpleman to transmits IR commands to groups of H-Devices and remote control groups of devices

within the home network as desired

As to claim 9, Humpleman further disclose where DTV 102 includes RC (col. 23, line 66-col. 24, line 26) for sending signals to DTV 102 and graphic processor for generating on-screen display signals, where the control processor generates on-screen display signals and menus which display control commands for a selected Home-Ds using the graphics processor and responds to corresponding commands from the RC, which includes control switches for control the Home-Ds, and transmits corresponding commands to the selected Home-Ds (figs. 8-12, col. 6, line 58-col. 7, line 24, col. 8, line 32-col. 9, line 9 and col. 14, line 20+).

As to claim 10, Humpleman further discloses VCR, CD players, and other analog devices that do not include a digital communications port but does include IR receiver which responds to commands transmitted by a further IR remote control via DTV 102 and further transmits IR commands to the analog Home-Ds to control the plurality of Home-Ds (figs. 8-12, col. 6, line 58-col. 7, line 24, col. 8, line 32-col. 9, line 9 and col. 14, line 20+ and col. 23, line 66-col. 24, line 26).

As to claim 11, Humpleman further discloses where DTV or session server registers the Home-Ds by room-by-room basis to identify respective command sets for the each room home-Ds and storing the identified command sets for room devices into memory and responsive to a request to transmit a control signal to the selected one of the Home-Ds or room-Ds and associating the control signal with a command from the retrieved command set and transmitting the associated command to the selected one of a room-Ds set (figs. 8-12, col. 6, line 58-col. 7, line 24, col. 8, line 32-col. 9, line 9 and

Art Unit: 2617

col. 14, line 20+).

As to claim 12, Humpleman teaches all the claimed limitation as previously discussed with respect to claim 11 and further teaches DTV 102 or session server controls all Home-Ds including VCR, DVCR, CD players, DVDs, etc., and further teaches a Bridge Proxy 116 for interfacing two networks using different protocols and an Internet Proxy, which interfaces with other the Home-Ds and external servers or clients on the Internet, but fails to explicitly teach an analog video communications port for transferring video signals between a second video device and the DTV 102.

However, note the **Schindler** reference figures 1, a home network and a gateway or Personal Computer (PC) 118, where an analog port within PC 118 interfaces with coaxial cabling, VCR, etc., to provide an NTSC "analog" TV signals on TV 150 (col. 7, lines 44-60 and col. 11, lines 38-67) and permit a user to remote control analog or digital devices.

Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention into incorporate the teaching of Schindler into the system of Humpleman to provide analog signals or television services to the home gateway and provide services to users with analog devices.

### ***Conclusion***

3. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Ho (6,622,307) discloses multiple-room signal distribution system.



Art Unit: 2617

Falkenburg et al (6,311,242) discloses method and apparatus for supporting dynamic insertions and removal of PCI devices.


4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to **Annan Q. Shang** whose telephone number is **571-272-7355**. The examiner can normally be reached on 700am-500pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, **Christopher S. Kelley** can be reached on **571-272-7331**. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is **703-872-9306**.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the **Electronic Business Center (EBC)** at **866-217-9197 (toll-free)**.



**Annan Q. Shang**



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